

Third Annual Convention  
of the  
MANITOBA WOMEN'S HOSPITAL AIDS

*Held at the*

*Royal Alexandra Hotel*  
WINNIPEG MANITOBA

*Thursday, October 13th, 1949.*





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MINUTES OF THE THIRD ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE  
MANITOBA WOMEN'S HOSPITAL AIDS ASSOCIATION  
HELD AT THE ROYAL ALEXANDRA HOTEL, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA  
ON OCTOBER 13th, 1949.

The third Annual meeting of the Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Association, was held on October 13th, 1949, in the Vice-Regal Suite of the Royal Alexandra Hotel.

Registration of representatives commenced at 9.30 A.M. The President Mrs. J. M. George was in the chair and opened the meeting at 10 A.M. by repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison. The President gave a short address of welcome to the delegates as follows:

"On behalf of the members of the Executive of the Manitoba Hospital Aid Association, may I extend to all in attendance a very cordial welcome to this, our Third Annual Convention. It is most gratifying to your officers to meet so many enthusiastic delegates, who, by your presence here this morning, are indicating that you consider our conventions worth while. We sincerely hope that, after spending the day with us, hearing the various reports, taking part in discussions and listening to our guest speakers, you will go back to your own Hospital Aid groups with greater enthusiasm to carry on in one of the greatest community service efforts available to women.

It has been a privilege being your President. Together with the present Executive, I have been in office since the organization of this Provincial Hospital Aid Association. Many of the members of the Executive have had a great deal more work in their respective offices than I have. The heavy load has fallen on the city members. Miss Macleod, in her dual office of Secretary-Treasurer, has been very busy. Mrs. Hoskin, our President Elect, Mrs. Currie, Mrs. Fillmore, Mrs. Oswald and Miss Paynter, so much of the Convention planning has been left with these ladies, the rural members- Mrs. Burgess, Neepawa; Mrs. Johns, Brandon; Mrs. Henry, Deloraine; and Mrs. Blow, Selkirk; have all been very faithful and have attended meetings when at all possible. Last year the time was short and I overlooked expressing, during the meeting, my gratitude to this group for the loyal support they have given me. May I now say "Thank you". It has truly been a joy working with you and I am sure you will agree with me that, if we can see this Provincial Aid grow and develop into the worthwhile organization that we wish it to be, it will more than repay us for the time we have spent.

During this past year my trips have been shorter, and may be fewer, than last year, but very interesting. I attended the Upper Mid-West Convention in Minneapolis in May of this year, where I was asked to give my impressions of the Atlantic City meeting. I listened to other speakers with interest. Shortage of nursing staff was stressed by many at this Convention. The Aids of Minnesota assist in the recruitment of students for the Nursing Profession. With this same dire need of Nurses in Manitoba, this should become a further endeavor for our Aids here.

I attended two meetings at Whitemouth, the first of these at the request of Miss Nix who had already done the missionary work toward the formation of their Hospital Aid to serve the new Hospital being built in Whitemouth. The second meeting I attended was on the invitation of Mrs. Williams of Seven Sisters. At the latter meeting their organization was completed, for their central group.

On one of my husband's Judicial trips, I invited myself to meet with the Executives of the Aids at Killarney and Cartwright.

In June, your President was included in a very enjoyable trip to Selkirk. Mrs. Fillmore addressed a combined meeting of the several Aids of the Selkirk Hospital.

During our vacation at Clear Lake, in August, we drove to Swan River, via Roblin and Benito. While my husband talked to the Hospital Board at Swan River, I visited with the Executive of their Hospital Aid and I found them a very enthusiastic group.

We called at Benito where the new Nursing unit opened in July. They have a fine building, but unfortunately at that time they were very short of staff.

At Roblin the framework of their new hospital was in evidence, and on the 28th of September, Mrs. Peterson of Carman accompanied me and we attended the organization meeting of their Hospital Aid.

Baldur Ladies met and organized on the 12th of September.

I accompanied my daughter on one of her trips in the inter-lake area, and I visited in two United Church W.M.S. Hospitals, Teulon and Ericksdale. I had hoped that Mrs. Hunter might have been able to come from Tuelon to tell us about the Hunter Memorial Hospital, named after the late Dr. Hunter. No, they do not have a Hospital Aid but the ladies gather in Mrs. Hunter's home to do the sewing etc., to fill any requisition from the Matron for supplies to keep up the linen requirements. Most of the hospital nurses have rooms in Mrs. Hunter's home. The W.M.S. also support two other buildings in Teulon, a home for boys and one for girls, students of the schools in Teulon.

At Ericksdale, Miss Hunt, the Lady Superintendent of the W.M.S. Hospital, and the only Registered Nurse on 24 hour call, had a staff of four practical nurses. Here they have a nice Nurses residence, next door to the Hospital, which provided the nurses with a home in which they could get away from their work when off duty.

The Carman Hospital opening was another function that I attended as your President. No wonder that all districts are begging to have new hospitals built. The Carman hospital is beautiful, the building and its furnishing.

My last visit was to the Altona Hospital. I attended Regional Council meeting, and there we were shown through another lovely Hospital.

In this, my final report, my earnest prayer is that our Provincial Aid Association may grow to be a strong link in the Hospital Chain of Manitoba, and assist in every way possible to bring comfort to the unfortunate sick in our midst.

Thank you, Ladies, for the honor you have given me in having me for your first President."

Mrs. George's address was listened to with great interest and heartily applauded.

The Secretary-Treasurer read her Annual Report followed by the Financial statement.



MISS MacLEODS REPORT -

Madam President, Members, and Friends:

"At this third Annual Meeting it is nice to see so many friends - Yes! Friends, for we are all in this together - working for no financial gain save the ultimate goal of making things better for the sick.

On June 3rd a few of your Executive visited the new Carman Memorial Hospital, the pride and joy of that community, and what a labor of love those Hospital Aiders have invested in that institution. Later that month we were guests of the six Aids at Selkirk. Mrs. W.P. Fillmore was guest speaker, her theme, "The Value of Hospital Aids". She spoke directly to the hearts of those present. After delightful refreshments we toured the Hospital. Instead of a new Hospital they have an old one, but on every side equipment donated by Hospital Aids. It is difficult to estimate in dollars what Hospital Aids mean to Hospitals when reports say - "Food showers, - a thousand jars of fruit, vegetables and honey, - Repaired furniture, - Catered for nurses' graduation - sewing and mending". Could anyone sum that up, and if they could - What a lump! On June 3rd it was really a 2-1 outing. The Executive met at the President's home in Morden. We made an early start so we could see the Carman Hospital and still be in time for luncheon with the President. We got there on the dot. After a delectable meal, your President in her usual thoughtful way planned an inspection of the Morden Experimental Farm. If you think inspection is exaggerating you have never made rounds with the Farm Superintendent, Mr. W. R. Leslie. Out of that day's outing came the letter of June 21st when you were asked to mark October 12th in your Hospital Aid Calendar, and here we are on the 13th instead of the 12th. Your Parent Association had to change their dates and asked us to move also.

Every Hospital in the Province is much indebted to the Manitoba Hospital Association for their work over the years. Like you Hospital Aiders, they have worked without reward, but like you, that was not their objective. They have been the go-between Governments and Municipalities for Hospitals, and got much where the lone hospital voice would never have been heard.

Maybe this report should have started in the traditional way by saying that Six Executive Meetings were held during the year. The dozens of reports and Notices sent out. The numbers of people contacted in order that your Association function for the greatest help to everyone, but even then the work involved could not be accurately recorded. Mrs. Margaret Rhynas, Public Relations Administrator - Women's Hospital Aids Association, has written several times. She is so intensely interested in our work. Recently when we desired names of Provincial Hospital Aid Presidents, these she sent by return mail. She has given so much of her time and energy, One who knew, said that she never refused a Hospital Aid call.

One of our member Aids wrote saying that they would not participate this year, as some of them felt they did not get enough out of it, - time to discuss problems, and knew there were others who felt the same way. Well, the getting together - it does one good to share the fruits of labor with our neighbors at large. After all, pride of achievement is an honest pride. Maybe we do pack too much into a few hours. but how typical - that is the very thing happening all the time at your Hospitals, but if you in any measure, no matter how small, help to ease that "tight packing" your work is blessed. The reports from Aids and Guilds are an inspiration. You would be surprised to know the numbers of people who ask if they might have one of our reports. Thanks to Mrs. E. J. Blow, Selkirk, through contact while visiting that Province, the Women's Hospital Aides to British Columbia Hospitals now have us

on their mailing list, and they on ours - so you see how far afield your works are going.

Our thanks go to the Manitoba Hospital Association and all who in any way helped. May I take this opportunity to say what an honor and privilege it has been to work with your President and Members of Executive."

Respectfully submitted,

Christina MacLeod.

Statement of Cash receipts and expenditures for period October 18th, 1948 to October 13th, 1949.

Cash in Royal Bank of Canada  
as at October 18th, 1948.

\$ 50.84

Receipts:

Fees collected

\$132.55

Dinners and Annual

meeting at Royal Alexandra Hotel

149.80

Bank interest

1.14

\$283.49

\$334.33

Expenses:

Rental of Convention Hall

\$ 15.00

Dinners and Annual Meeting

161.20

Tips

5.00

Exchange

.25

Mrs. Bickles Hotel Bill )

Stationery, Stamps, Print- )

ing reports, Printing )

programs. )

91.42

\$272.87

Cash in the Royal Bank of Canada as  
at October 13th, 1949.

61.46

Audited and found to be correct. Summary  
of cash receipts and expenditures for the  
period.

Charles R. Peirsen,  
Auditor.

Miss MacLeods report was adopted also the Financial Statement and she was given a very hearty vote of thanks for the work she has accomplished during the past year.

REPORTS OF DELEGATES:

Delegates were introduced by Miss C. MacLeod.



ALTONA - Mrs. P. Braun.

Altona Aid has forty-five members who pay a fee of 25¢. This year Wards have been furnished by different communities, business firms and individuals.

Four different school districts each furnished a semi-private ward.

Three Co-op organizations each furnished a semi-private ward

One friend furnished a Private Ward.

Other friends furnished a Private Ward.

The Contractor Mr. P. A. Kroecker furnished the Waiting Room.

Several organizations donated cash amounting to \$155.00 - 50 chairs were bought with this money.

Total money raised in various ways amounted to \$1,306.45.

The Ladies Aid and the W.I. do all the mending at the Hospital, they also pay a seamstress to do all the sewing.

The Gretna W.I. donated an incubator.

Forty people helped can 1,500 quarts of fruit and vegetables. Mrs. D. Loewen was the person who inspired everyone to do this good work. A party was arranged after the canning was done, for the domestic staff and everyone that had helped with the work.

Entertainments were arranged at Xmas and gifts given to each patient. Flowers also were donated.

BOISSEVAIN -

1948-49 proved to be a profitable year. The money raised was \$1,845.65 - Membership is 318, the Fee is 25¢ plus a jar of fruit, jam or jelly.

The money was raised by having an Amateur Night, Musical Recital, A.C.T. Broadcast, Fall Tea, Easter Ball, Tag Day and the Fair, these were interesting and worthwhile projects.

The supply Committee made up all kinds of Hospital Linens. They also mended linens. Fleeces were donated and made up into bath blankets.

Furniture was bought for the Isolation and Children's wards and an Arm Chair for a Private Ward.

The President of this Aid is a member of the Hospital Board.

Magazines have been provided each month.

The Hospital Aid members have just finished an extensive canvass for the community wide membership in the Blue Cross and Group Hospital Insurance and solicited volunteer blood donors for the Red Cross.

BENITO - Mrs. Ora L. Staples.

Benito Aid was organized on October 27th, 1949, it is composed of four communities. Each community organized separately and carried on individual activities to a certain extent.

As our Hospital was still in the course of construction, we immediately started to gather funds so that we could assist in having all necessary utensils and equipment on hand for opening day which was July 4th.

\$2,575.00 was raised in the following way: A membership drive, two dances, draw for chest of silverware, donated by our local druggist, meals and lunches were sold during Bonspiel, two silver teas and donation days (which included donations of cash, canned goods and groceries), catered for high school graduation banquet, served a silver tea on Hospital opening day, and placed donation boxes in all prominent business places in Benito, Durban.

Benito Cont'd.

The Doukhobor and Russian Evangelical Churches also helped.  
The money was used for equipment for the Hospital, also an X Ray machine.

BRANDON - Mrs. Mary Doak.

The Brandon Women's Hospital Aid holds monthly meetings, with the exception of July and August. We have over 100 members which are associate members but only 22 active members.

Money is raised by running a snack bar, which has just been painted.

The travelling cart is well patronized by patients and visitors.

Materials were bought and aprons made for the ladies in charge of the snack bar. Blankets were purchased for the hospital also plastic and cotton curtains for the screens in the semi-private wards. Blanket ends were also secured for hot formations.

Sewing is done for the Hospital. Two members of our Aid attend Hospital Board meetings.

We have recently furnished the students study room with tables, chairs, curtains, blinds and drapes. We continue to pay for a painter and repair man at the Hospital.

CARMAN - Mrs. Brown.

Our Aid has a membership of 41. The annual membership fee is 50¢ and that with the tag days held during Carmen's Summer Fair, is the only way our money has been raised during the past year. We feel now with the set-up of the new hospital when everyone is taxed for its upkeep, that we cannot make many public appeals for money. The only other appeal is the annual shower which we hold in October, it always receives a good response.

Although the districts around Carmen have no Hospital Aids they are most co-operative in doing work and donating money, and even food for special occasions.

A three bed maternity ward was furnished in the new hospital at a cost of \$873.00 as well as the Hospital's reception room.

The biggest undertaking of the year was serving tea to all visitors who came to inspect our new 43 Bed Hospital during the three days following its official opening in May.

A new sewing machine was purchased so now we have three sewing machines in our sewing room where we work two afternoons a month or more.

We try to keep the patients in mind too, and appoint a committee of two each month who make weekly visits to all those hospitalized.

Prior to Christmas, a sum of money is granted the lady superintendent to purchase small gifts for those unfortunate enough to spend their Christmas in the Hospital.

The Carman Aid has no representation on the local Hospital Board.

CARBERRY - Lilian Rogers.

The Fox Memorial Hospital at Carberry is a beautifully furnished nine bed hospital, equipped with X-Ray, Operating Room, Case Room and Nursery.

The Fox Memorial Hospital Aid was organized the latter part of June 1948, and now have a membership of 596. Every School district is a Sub-Branch and responsible for its own members. A District Representative is appointed to attend



Carberry Cont'd.

the Central organization and inform their members of all planned activities. The Town is divided into Zones with a representative for each zone.

By-Laws were submitted and approved. The membership fee being 50¢ per year and donations for Pantry Shower.

This Hospital was officially opened February 14th, 1949. The Aid purchased all the linens, Doctors and Patients gowns, Towels, Pillows, Blankets, Dishes, Silverware and Glassware, through the local merchants.

Number of articles made 709, articles tagged 1,196.

The sum of \$3,817.38 was raised in various ways. Teas, Lawn socials, Home Cooking Sales, Catering for Fair, Carnival, Auction Sales, Barn Dances. Several dollars were realized from Penny Jars placed in the Stores.

A Representative of the Local Hospital Board attended all meetings of the Aids buying committee and the Aid was consulted regarding the purchase of Hospital Equipment and Furnishings. The Aid will be represented on the Hospital Board.

The plans for this year include the purchase of a Dryer for the Laundry, an Inhalator, and a filing cabinet.

CARTWRIGHT - Mrs. W. D. Wallace.

Although our Women's Hospital Auxiliary Association was organized in June 1947, membership fees collected and considerable sewing done for the prospective hospital, there were no regular monthly meetings held until April 1949, due to the fact that the hospital came to a "fullstop".

We have had nine work groups besides the town ladies of Cartwright, namely the following School Districts:- Mt. Prospect, Graham-Sinkerville, Mylor, South Derby Mather, Rock Lake, Howard, Hazeldell and Chesterville. There are prospects of two more groups in the coming year. A splendid spirit of co-operation has prevailed.

The necessary sewing has been completed, blankets have been donated and others made from donations of wool, Feathers and pillows also have been received. One of the country groups made the feathers into pillows. Towel Showers were held in both Mather and Cartwright, in March, with wonderful success. Pantry boxes were placed in the stores, and one of the country groups held a pantry shower. A Wearever Aluminum set of kitchenware was donated by another country group.

The total amount of money raised in 1949 was \$1,315.75, the Fun Fair being our best money-raising venture — with \$673.96 clear. Other money making activities were silver teas at the towel showers and regular meetings, the travelling apron - each person receiving the apron sewed on a patch with a contribution under the patch, a booth on Sports Day, lunch for dances, etc., dinner for W.I. Convention, Hot Dogs and coffee on a street stand and our regular membership fee of \$1.00 per year. The public response to all appeals has been most generous.

Respectfully submitted,

I. Wallace,

Secretary.

CLANDEBOYE - Janet E. Aime.

Clandeboyte Aid has 20 active members, seven meetings have been held during the year. Money was raised in various ways. In January and February a play was presented. In June a Local Talent Concert was held. In August a Hospital Flower

Clandeboyne Cont'd.

Church Service was held and the flowers were sent to the Selkirk General Hospital, from the proceeds of this service we plan to purchase an Ilfra Red Lamp for the Hospital. Plans have been made for a Tea and Shower this month.

An Autographed Quilt has been started and will be raffled when it is completed. Pillow slips, Sheets and Pyjamas have been made for the Hospital. Two bedside tables have been purchased, two bed sides as well as three steel chairs. All the members have been very co-operative and we feel that this has been a most successful year.

DAUPHIN -

The Dauphin Aid donated the following articles to their hospital - A Potato Peeler, Vegetable slicer (electric), Large Standard Fan for the Operating Room, Upholstered the chairs in the Reception Room, Tuning Piano, A Gift of a Hypodermic set to each member of the graduating class and \$15.00 for Christmas cheer.

We assisted at entertainments, Graduation, Open House, etc.,

The Hospital is visited by two members of the Aid each month.

DELORAIN - Mrs. W. O. Henry.

Since the last Annual meeting of the Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Assn., we held our Annual Bazaar and in place of a dinner had a Tag Day for the Hospital, which proved a decided success.

Owing to weather conditions we were unable to have a Valentine Dance in February, but later we held a dance during Easter week, which was a success.

In June we entered a group of knitted articles in the Fair and again received the Eaton Prize.

We decided this year to raise our fee to 50¢ and have an enrollment of one hundred and seventeen members, we also have been successful in getting Aid members on the Hospital Board this past year and a half.

This year we purchased a Pneumo-Thorax Machine for the Hospital, have had all the mattresses rebuilt, purchased surgical trousers for the Doctors, bought curtains for some of the wards and the X-Ray and Dining Room and Kitchen; also bought new spreads, blankets, dressing gowns and the usual linen and fruit.

This month we are preparing for the 27th Annual Bazaar and Auction Sale of Fancy Work and miscellaneous articles, with the usual dance in the evening when two door prizes will be drawn for.

HAMIOTA - May A. Hudson.

The Aid this year appointed ladies at each district in the new Hospital area to be ready when the new building was started to form groups, so far, we have not needed them.

We have carried on as usual given meals at sports and Fair Day which is our big adventure we took in \$1,319.29.

We purchased material amounting to \$715.96 and sewed it up.

Scotia (Hamiota Municipality) presented 16 large and 7 small pillows - a mix master. We took the old pillows all out, cleaned and put new covers on them.

Decker gave an electric tea kettle and their Jr. Red Cross a knitted crib cover.



Hamiota - Cont'd.

Oakner gave drapes. Carsdale (Blanchard & River) a pressure cooker.

Oak River Municipality a maternity bed.

We collected tin foil and took it to the Children's Hospital, Winnipeg.

The hospital has been very crowded all year. Dr. Chalmers death at Miniota put on an extra strain as no Doctor has been available.

GRACE HOSPITAL LADIES AUXILIARY - Mrs. R. C. Low.

The Grace Hospital Ladies Auxiliary held 9 meetings during the year, with an average attendance of 19.

The Graduation of nurses with a reception in Young United Church, where we entertained the nurses and their friends. We presented an Obstetrical Medal.

Bazaar and Tea with some of the proceeds we gave the Hospital a Silver Tea and Coffee service. We helped with baby day. Our Team collected \$352.27.

The Homeside unmarried mothers are visited each week with a rose and sometimes ice-cream as a treat. We are glad to report last month only 4 visits had to be made. At our regular meetings we make surgical dressings and mark linen.

We welcomed a new head this year - Brig. Houghton.

This year's project is a Formula Sterilizer.

KILLARNEY - A. E. Kent, Mrs.

Killarney Hospital Aid met once a month with a fair attendance. \$987.85 was raised by tea collections at meetings, Hospital Tea, Raffles, Donations from neighboring districts. Tag Day, Picture Show, and members fees.

One hundred and fifty paid fees during the year a balance of \$866.78 was carried over from the previous year.

The Aid provided linens, blankets, curtains, a few small articles for the kitchen, and furnishings for the nurses Living Quarters to the value of \$550.00.

Mending linens is attended to each week by a group of members.

A splendid Pantry Shower is held each fall when a generous supply of canned juices, vegetables, pickles, honey, jam, jellies, soup and fruit is received.

An active visiting committee looks after the comfort of the patients.

We have no representation on the hospital board.

MORDEN - Mrs. G. Ure.

The Morden Aid have always been interested in the M.W.H.A. Assn., and 15 members attended again this year which proves their interest.

Our meetings are held each month in the large sitting room of one of our local hotels. This is a change from previous years as our membership has increased considerably due to enthusiasm stirred up by our membership committee and a greater interest in our hospital. We have a membership of 56 with an average attendance of 27.5 and an average of 10 visitors to each meeting for the past 7 months.

Apart from our usual supplies of linen, dishes, etc., we have tried to place some emphasis on adding new equipment to our kitchen for the pleasure and convenience of our very capable cook. This includes both electrical and canning equipment.

About 350 qts. of Tomatoes and 80 bottles of jelly canned by some of our members added to the already full shelves of canned fruit. This was also added to by the produce drive made amongst the various schools of the district.

Morden Cont'd.

The linen is mended by one of the local ladies so as to be kept up to date.

Tin foil has been collected in response to a request by the McKinnon Guild, by the school children, one of the teachers a member of our Aid looks after this.

We have no official representation on our hospital board, but were invited to have our President and Secretary attend their meetings and give short reports. This has proved very beneficial to both Aid and Board.

A combination radio and record player and a few records were presented to the Nurses home for Christmas. Card tables, a chesterfield suite curtains and a vacuum cleaner were also donated.

Early in the New Year we had a social evening to acquaint the Board and Aid with the members of our Hospital Staff. We also tried to have our Aid members entertain some of the nurses once a month.

Funds were raised in various ways such as: The Fun Fair; Casey Shows; Curling Bonspiels; serving Lunches; Bingo; as well as substantial donations from outside organizations. \$2,200.00 was raised during the year.

MINNEDOSA - Mrs. C. Green.

Our Aid supplies the Lady Minto Hospital with all necessary linens, mending, cutlery, dishes, housecleaning, painting of the interior.

We work throughout the year to raise the money. Our first effort is the New Year Dance we are able to count upon \$400.00 or more from this source, Mrs. A. Henson convened this dance.

Our second project is the membership drive, all members canvass, \$200.00 was raised in this way. We also collected tinfoil.

In May we observed National Hospital Day. We also canvassed for money or Groceries which brought in approximately \$200.00.

We do not meet during July & August but we appoint an emergency summer executive for those two months. Much to our surprise a real emergency arose this year which kept our committee busy.

A new Hospital of 30 beds is being built in Minnedosa. Our present hospital is overcrowded as it only has 10 - 12 beds. Our district has been greatly enlarged and includes several new districts - Newdale, Basswood, Rapid City, Minnedosa, Clanwilliam and Franklyn this is District No. 8.

As we were asked to supply linens etc., for the new hospital our summer executive visited all the new districts and by September had a total of 14 new Aids organized. All the Aids have been busy and our joint Bank Account has approximately \$1,000.00 in it. Our own Minnedosa Tag Day netted \$284.00 for linens for the new Hospital.

In November we are holding our Annual Picture Show and hope to make \$300.00.

A central buying committee has been formed and orders for sheeting and pillow casing has been placed through all our local merchants throughout our district. All the Aids will help make these articles.

In December a joint meeting will be held of all the Aids and a President and Secretary for District No. 8 will be elected all the Aids will have representation on a central Council to form a governing body.

Our Aid has two representatives on the Hospital Board.

MCCREARY - Mrs. J. L. O'Shaughnessy.

Aid not formed but women getting together - 2 representatives at annual.  
Paid up. C.M.



NEEPAWA - Mrs. J. Alguire

Our projects for the year were a membership drive of a \$100 membership, Violet Day, and a Hope Chest. Total receipts for the year were \$1,726.48.

We supplied Mattresses, and Oxygen Tank, Gowns, linens, Gatch Beds, in every ward including the public ward, we paid for a sewing woman and bought sterilizers.

We received on Hospital Day this year. Our President is a member of the Board of the Hospital.

Our new hospital will have five more beds, forming of a smaller auxiliary will be one of our projects in the spring. All our purchasing is done locally when possible.

Our Aid also has some Bonds in safe keeping.

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE - Mrs. E. Newell.

Our Aid does all the purchasing of linens which are bought locally and sewn by a very capable sewing committee. Last year they turned in over 1,000 articles. We have a ninety bed hospital in Portage.

Each year we have a May Day collection from door to door which nets over \$1,100.00. At the Fair this year we held a draw and made approximately \$225.00. We also held a Spring Tea and Domestic Table. One of our members donated a beautiful pair of sheets which were drawn for at the Tea, our receipts amounted to \$2400.00.

Recently we sponsored a Reception commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the school of nursing. Our President and Miss Lethbridge, Matron of our Hospital received, a large number of citizens attended. Pictures of all the graduating classes for the past 50 years were on view, also pictures of many of the Doctors of years gone by.

We help with the Nurses Graduation, Reception and Dance, our Aid provides Medals and Bar Pins for proficiency winners. Before graduation many of the graduates were entertained by several of the Aid members.

Last but not least, we were highly honored by having our President, Mrs. F.B.C. Richardson, nominated for election to the Executive of the Manitoba Women's Hospital Aid Association.

PETERSFIELD BRANCH - Mrs. P. Rombough.

Our Aid has a membership of 28 and an average attendance of 17. Red Cross matters are discussed at our meetings and we supervise the Cancer Relief Campaign in our District.

Our money is raised in various ways. The Clandeboy Hospital Aid presented their play "For Pete Sakes" at Petersfield under the auspices of the Petersfield Hospital Aid. Numerous books donated by the members were sold and various articles donated were raffled at our meetings. October 28th, has been set aside for a Whist Drive, Dance and Raffle.

A Chromium plated fully modern collapseable wheel chair was presented to the Hospital besides five women's housecoats and 5 mens dressing gowns. A Bed Pan was also donated by one of our members. At present a drive is underway for a collection of wool to be made into blankets for the Hospital.

We have striven to provide as much material aid to the Selkirk Hospital as possible and have succeeded in promoting an intense interest among our members in the continuation of our past accomplishments.

RUSSELL -

Hear from them - no representatives this year. Paid up.

PRINCESS ELIZABETH HOSPITAL GUILD - Mrs. B. Ellinthorpe.

The Princess Elizabeth Hospital for the chronically ill is to be opened before the end of the year. In the meantime, the Guild members visit the patients of Ward E, in the King George Hospital every Wednesday. They are also interested in 3 projects for the new Hospital, Namely:

(1) Afghans - small ones for over the patients shoulders or knees. An appeal was made over 'Sugar and Spice' for Afghan squares, the encouraging result was 2,640 beautiful squares which the members have sewn together. The Guild feels a deep debt of gratitude to so many kind friends throughout Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Ontario, and the northern states who donated generously to the worthy cause. There are 81 finished afghans on hand.

(2) Vases - 150 vases are ready for the wards, with promises of many more. The vase committee hope to have 2 vases in every ward.

(3) Library - The Guild members will supply and maintain the library. There are already 200 books ready for the shelves and dozens of smaller type to be collected prior to opening.

Our membership is 134 and the Bank Balance stands at \$163.00. The Guild meets on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of each month. A cordial invitation is extended to members and friends of the Manitoba Women's Hospital Aid Assn., to attend as guests, any of our monthly meetings.

The Annual Meeting is held in January. Following the official opening of the hospital at 2 o'clock, the public will have an opportunity of viewing it, and a silver tea will be sponsored by the Guild members, afternoon and evening.

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL AID - Mrs. M. Hershfield.

Since our last report was given in October 1948 we have had a very busy year. To date we have held 9 meetings at the hospital, no meetings are held during June, July and August.

Our meetings are opened with prayer by Sister Superior, and then the members fold bandages while the business of the meeting is conducted. Sisters always reward us by serving Tea at the close of the meeting.

Some of our activities are as follows: A Spring and Fall Rummage Sale. We held a large Spring Tea in the Assembly Hall at Eatons during which we had a draw for a Hope Chest. We also sold Home cooking and Candy, and had a Fancy Goods Table.

The Guild presented the Hospital with an Electro-Cardiograph machine at that time.

We held two food demonstrations and Home Cooking sales during that period.

In May the Guild supplied the money to furnish and equip a small waiting Room at the Hospital.

Our Annual Fall Membership Tea was held at the home of Mrs. A. Jobin with more than 100 ladies present.

We presented a gift of Fruit, Candy and Flowers to the Rev. Sisters at Xmas.

During the active months 192,000 gauze squares were folded, while doctor's gowns, pillow cases, surgical binders etc., were made in the sewing room.



ADA J. ROSS HOSPITAL AID, SELKIRK HOSPITAL - Mrs. J. Brady.

During 1949 our Aid has held seven meetings. We have 12 members with an average attendance of 9.

Our main project this year has been selling soft drinks, chocolate bars, gum, lifesavers etc., to the patients in the Selkirk General Hospital. This was made possible by the voluntary co-operation of Sarbit's Grocery in Selkirk, who gave us delivery service and wholesale figures, which enabled us to sell our goods at store prices.

The Hospital has been serviced regularly since May 1st, by our member and has been much appreciated by the patients and nurses alike. By the end of September we had netted \$122.56.

Numerous knitted baby garments have been made for the Sr. Hospital Aid Show Case.

Four garden chairs have been bought for the patients. A quilt has been completed, and a silver plated tea pot and a plastic mattress cover purchased for our ward.

Our usual fall collection has not yet been handed in. \$17.10 was realized from members' voluntary giving.

We have no representation on the Hospital Board.

ST. ANDREWS HOSPITAL AID, SELKIRK GENERAL HOSPITAL - Mrs. A. H. Warwick,

Our Aid has a membership of 16. Red Cross sewing is done by our group and the area was canvassed during the Red Cross Campaign a total of \$302.85 was collected. A Tea in aid of the Cancer Relief Fund was held and a shower for the Hospital is held annually.

We maintain a ward at the hospital. We have a programme convenor and at our meetings interesting subjects are read and discussed.

Our funds are raised chiefly by voluntary contribution at our meeting. Receipts for 1948 \$90.44.

JUNIOR HOSPITAL AID - SELKIRK HOSPITAL - Mrs. D. Mills.

The particular objective of the Selkirk Jr. Hosp. Aid is to provide supplies and equipment for the nursery and pediatric wards, we also purchase some items for general use in the hospital.

Since October 1948 with 40 active members we have sponsored three projects, our Annual Dance, a sale of home cooking, and a rummage sale, the proceeds amounting to approximately \$384.75.

Our purchases for the year were 5½ doz. diapers, 3 doz. binders, 2 doz. gowns, 2 doz. towels, 2 doz. small crib sheets, 2 doz. envelope sheets, 1½ doz. large crib sheets, 1 doz. pr. white hose, 1 single burner hot plate, 1 dressing jar, identification beads and seals. In December the Aid bought a record cabinet and two china figurines as Christmas Gifts for the Nurses' Home.

The members also collected tin and lead foil which is forwarded to the Children's Hospital in Winnipeg.

SHOAL LAKE HOSPITAL AID - Mrs. K. Lindsay.

With 38 active members the Shoal Lake Hospital Aid started their money raising activities by holding a Tea in the Town Hall in January, at this event Boudoir Lamps were raffled and proceeds amounted to \$135.00. This is to be a yearly event.

Shoal Lake Hospital Aid Cont'd.

On May 12th, a Tea was held at the hospital. This was hospital Day and many visitors came to look over the hospital. The Silver collection amounted to \$66.00. Two districts, Strathcona, and Oakburn brought showers, one Towels & Sheets the other a Baby Shower.

Early in June a Tag Day was held which resulted in \$110.00 being collected by our Aid.

Finally under a hard working committee a raffle of a Cedar Chest and donations from the town businessmen, was held in September. The draw for the thirty odd prizes and Cedar Chest took place at one of the local dances this raffle brought in \$505.00, a total of \$816.00 was raised by our Aid during the year.

Our Aid was re-organized two years ago. We have purchased for the Hospital, a Baby Incubator, Electric Ironer, Bed Spreads, put in a built in cupboard wherever needed, Decorated the Nurses sitting Room, bought silverware, plastic sheeting, to make 5 mattress covers, 4 pr. of woolen blankets, drapes, we also clean and refurnish different wards and mendlinens.

STEINBACH - Mrs. Rieger

Our Aid consists of 172 members, we have had another busy year. A new wing has been added to our hospital, increasing it from 17 beds to 45 bed hospital. The dedication is to take place on Saturday October 15th, 1949. We have again supplied all the linens and bedding the drapes for the private rooms, chrome chairs for the dining room, a sewing machine, washable toys and books for the children's ward, and books for the other patients. We have also undertaken to furnish the Nurse's sitting Room.

A Total of \$2,098.68 was raised by membership fees, 10¢ levy, a Tea and cash donations from other groups holding raffles etc.

We have helped with the canning and mend once a week.

To date we have not had a member on the Hospital Board but it has been brought before them and is under consideration.

SELKIRK GENERAL HOSPITAL LADIES AUX. - Mrs. B. Hawes.

In this last year we have spent a great deal of money trying to make living pleasant for our nurses. We had the Nurses Home and Dining Room decorated, bought lamp shades, cranes for drapes, 2 complete beds, 2 linoleum rugs, 6 coffee pots and chocolates at Christmas. The Jr. Hospital Aid has also done their bit towards comforts for our nurses.

We have four ways of raising money, Tag Days and House to House Canvass, Fall shower and Tea raised \$866.41, and about 75 dollars worth of merchandize was donated including everything from soup to nuts, our Show case sale of work brought in \$52.80, St. Valentines Tea \$89.15 and Easter Ball \$195.76. We purchased One Electric Food Conveyor, 6 plastic covers, 1 pr. of bed safety sides, 6 pr. curtains, 2 metal top chart desks with 30 aluminum chart files, 1 hoover vacuum cleaner, 1 bed complete with inner spring mattress.

Our Aid has no representation on the Hospital Board.



ROBLIN DISTRICT #2 - Mrs. M. Cameron.

Our Hospital in Roblin is still under construction but we expect it will be completed by March.

We organized our Aid two weeks ago under the guidance of Mrs. George and the Executive were elected to office. 26 womens groups were represented at the meeting.

When plans were first made for the hospital a temporary committee was formed in order to get some projects started and make some money.

Mr. McBride donated lumber and volunteers helped build a canteen in town in which we have served lunches, hot dogs, sandwiches, pie and coffee every Saturday night. Our profits from this project for the two summers was \$1,838.00.

VIRDEN LADIES HOSP. AID - Mrs. R. Alexander.

Virden Ladies have a membership of about 150 with a fee of 60¢. There are 15 active members.

Our funds are raised by membership fees, a spring tea, and Tag Day in the Fall and a fall donation day. We buy all the linens for the Public Wards and nurses quarters and operating room and have financed considerable decorating throughout the hospital. We also attend to the mending which is done at the hospital a couple of days a week and for this we ask the different ladies or organizations of the town to be responsible for a month at a time. At present we are hoping for a new hospital and are trying to build up a large cash reserve to be ready for the added expense.

To date our Bank Balance is \$1,100.00.

Two of our members are also members of the Hospital Board.

WHITEMOUTH DISTRICT HOSPITAL AID - Mrs. M. Williams.

Although our Hospital is still under construction we have organized our hospital aid and have been very active trying to make sufficient money to supply the linens and surgical supplies. Mrs. J. M. George came to Whitemouth last June and helped us with our organization. Due to our district covering such a large area we formed an aid which in turn is divided into five guilds. These Guilds carry out their own projects and are separate units in themselves with the Aid as an Advisory and Governing Body.

To date we have raised approximately fifteen hundred dollars.

ST. AGNES GUILD OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - Mrs. A.G. Goulding.

To summerize briefly the activities of the St. Agnes Guild for this year.

We have a monthly Executive and Board meeting, and a general meeting with an average attendance of 40 members.

In September our Guild made a concentrated drive for new members. Today we have a membership of 88.

In March we held a Rummage Sale, a Coffee Party in May. Serving Tea at Polo Park Club for the two meets Spring and Fall. A Bazaar to be held a week from tomorrow in the Beaver Room of the Hudson's Bay Co., store, October 21st, 1949, from 1.30 - 5 P.M.

Another source of revenue is our sale of matches. We have developed a clientele.

This year we are taking orders from our friends for very distinctive Christmas cards.

A report covering our last year's work is published in the Children's Hospital 40th annual report of 1948. We will equal our endeavors of last year, and in all probability have a better year.

LT. MELVILLE WOOD GUILD OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - Mrs. W. J. Hunter.

Our activities for the past year was a Spring Tea, A Rummage Sale, Coffee Parties, etc., which made possible the following gifts:- A curved Mayo Table - an O.P.D. Lamp and a portable typewriter, fifty dollars enclosed in a leather wallet was awarded at graduation for proficiency to an undergraduate nurse.

The members as a group participated in the campaign to raise funds for the new children's Hospital, our Guild donated \$1,000.00 to the building fund.

The Interns quarters were repaired - suitably decorated at a cost of \$228.75.

At Easter Ice Cream favors and toys were distributed to the patients. The Christmas stockings filled by the members with toys, fruit, candies, books always lend cheer to the festive spirit for the children who are in hospital at Christmas.

JR. ST. AGNES GUILD OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - Mrs. Phyllis Way.

Our Guild consists of 30 members who help to raise money each year through the following activities:

Two Rummage sales Spring and Fall, Annual Valentine Tea and Sale of Work. Providing refreshments on Annual Field Day, Winnipeg Gun Club, Sale of Home Cooking. Assisting Sr. St. Agnes Guild at the two race meets at Polo Park, Selling tickets on Raffles.

Six of our members assisted in the canvassing for funds for the new hospital and raised \$653.70.

In April we donated \$300.00 to the hospital, \$160.00 to purchase a Photoelectric colormeter, and \$140.00 to be used for maintenance. We also donated \$100.00 toward the building fund and \$25.00 toward the redecorating of the nurses residence.

We supply new books regularly to the children's library at the hospital through a silver collection taken at each meeting and also keep books in good condition. Our members hemmed 300 diapers during the year.

We plan an Easter party and a Christmas party each year for the children at the hospital, provide entertainment, refreshments and gifts.

ANNIE A. BOND GUILD OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - Mrs. G.F.D. Bond.

The Annie A. Bond Guild is one of the smaller Guilds of the Hospital, our membership being 25. We celebrated our 20 Anniversary last year by endowing our own Ward, and this year we refurnished the ward.

We sew for the infants ward of the Hospital, and keep them supplied with gowns, jackets, diapers, rompers dresses, bibs, etc., as they are required. This amounts to hundreds of articles yearly.

This year we helped with a donation toward upholstering the furniture in the Nurses Residence.

We held a Tea in T. Eaton Assembly Hall last January, and in April our biggest effort of the year was a week's work of having a Snack Bar and selling programs at the House Builders Show in the Winnipeg Auditorium. We cleared almost \$1,000.00 in this venture.

In May we gave a scholarship to one of the graduating Nurses.

This fall we have a Christmas Card project. Mrs. Tisdale has already told you this, but I am going to repeat it. We bought the artists original drawing and had the cards lithographed. We think we have an attractive card and good value to offer at 10 for \$1.00. Miss Macleod has kindly allowed us to have them on display for sale.

We have another Snack Bar project in prospect at the House Builders Show in April, 1950.

We have representation on the Hospital Board.



ST. JOHN'S GUILD OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - Mrs. G. Williams.

Our Guild has, as in previous years raised funds for the Hospital, through teas, home cooking, sale of work, rummage sales and other minor ways.

A new department at one of our teas was a handicraft exhibition which proved very interesting and attracted a large number of people.

We donated to the hospitals new washer-sterilizer at a cost of \$1,720.00; a cash donation of \$300.00 to the building fund; and a steam tent.

Our Annual scholarship of \$50.00 was given to an outstanding student nurse, and hypodermic sets to each member of the graduating class.

Our President is our official representative at Hospital Board meetings.

THE MCKINNON GUILD OF THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL - Mrs. E. McKellar.

The following grants were given to the Children's Hospital for 1948. The Orthoptic Clinic \$1,820.00; Donations for maintenance \$1,594.06; Nurses Theory Prize and Wallet \$20.00; Purchase of Canada Bond for Building Fund \$1,545.06.

We held a Rummage Sale at Grace Church October 15th, and realized \$393.34. This sale will be held in Trinity Hall this year on October 15th.

This year we are giving the Orthoptic Clinic \$120.00 per month and out of this sum \$500.00 is being used to provide a bursary fund to train an Orthoptic technician. Miss Snell is taking this course at the St. Louis Hospital.

Tinfoil and Lead drive was held in January and February. Through the courtesy of the Manitoba Wholesale Druggists Assn., and the National Drugs, we were able to place three-hundred posters advertising the saving of lead and tinfoil in the City and Country Drug stores. We asked to have the Tinfoil sent in clean and flat. We very much appreciate tinfoil sent in by the different Aids.

Our Spring Bonnet Tea - held at Beaver Hall April 29th, realized the sum of \$2,000.00, 2,500 invitations were sent out.

During Winnipeg's 75th Anniversary Week, we had a display of merchandize from our Trading Post Barter Shop, 205 Enderton Bldg., in the Marlborough Hotel.

During the month of July we collected Ogilvie box tops and received 5¢ for each top from the Ogilvie Co., mill in Montreal, \$15.70 was collected.

Our Guild celebrated its twentieth anniversary at a luncheon held in the Vice-regal suite of the Royal Alexandra Hotel. We gave, in commemoration of this event, \$500.00 to the Children's Hospital to be used as they saw fit.

Now that we have come of age our plans are bigger and better than ever for the new Children's Hospital, and we are looking forward to the completion of this hospital.

We have representation on the Board of the Children's Hospital.

Report of the White Cross Guild of the Winnipeg General Hospital.  
for  
Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Association  
Y E A R 1948.

The following Report is based on a nine month period.

VOLUNTEER SERVICE -

227 Regular Volunteers working throughout the Hospital

Library Service                      Twice a week.

Travelling Shop                      Daily

Maternity Ward                      Daily

General Ward Duty                      Daily

Pharmacy Dept.                      Daily

Physiotherapy Dept.                      Daily

Out Patients Dept.                      Twice a Week.

White Cross Guild Report Cont'd.

140 Volunteers, members of groups making surgical dressings                      Once a week.

40 Volunteers - Sewing - Hospital Supplies.

67 Humpty Dumpty (Junior Girls) gave Christmas and Easter parties for Children's Ward - Also 2 radios to Public Wards.

Junior High School Students - made 850 favours for patients' trays for Christmas dinner.

Art School Students - made place cards for Nurses' dining room for Christmas.

FINANCES -

Sponsored premier showing of "Red Shoes" - Sold out month ahead.

Travelling Shop - netted approximately \$50.00 a month.

GIFTS TO HOSPITAL -

Maintenance of Volunteers' Department.

Bone Bank to Dr. George Ryan.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Gordon Konantz.

The delegates were thanked for their reports and it was moved, seconded and carried that the meeting adjourn to reconvene after Luncheon.

The President Mrs. J. W. George presided at the Luncheon and called on the Guest Speaker, Mrs. Garnet Coulter, Wife of the Mayor of Winnipeg.

"I have made many resolutions to let my husband do the talking for the family, and let me sit back comfortably and bask in reflected glory. But some persuasive person is always catching me at a weak moment (I seem to have a lot of them), and first thing I know I'm making a speech again. Miss MacLeod is a very persuasive person - and here I am.

When I went through the report of your Second Annual meeting, held last year - which I read with much interest - (and here let me congratulate you all, very sincerely, on that most impressive record of work done and funds raised) I was particularly impressed by what had been done in so many of the smaller communities, with limited memberships - certainly the people of those communities have reason to be continually grateful to the women who have put so much effort and devotion into hospital aid work. It is a record you can well be proud of - whether your fellow-citizens voice their appreciation or not. Human nature being what it is, they probably don't, very often. It's like the attitude of my grandfather, who carried Scottish reserve to great lengths. My grandmother was a very good cook, and took great pains to prepare toothsome dishes for the family meals - hoping (as we all do) for some little word of praise now and then, to make the effort seem worthwhile. But none ever came. One day she complained gently to my grandfather, who said in real surprise "Well, you know I'd tell you if it wasn't all right, don't you?" So the personal satisfaction we get out of doing a job we think should be done, and doing it well, is about all we can hope for - but I think it's still worth it.

As I was saying, reading your 1948 report I came to Mrs. Bickle's address at last year's luncheon; and as I read what a wealth of information, suggestions, ideas she had packed into her brief talk, I felt again how weak I had been to let Miss MacLeod persuade me to accept this honour. Because I can't tell you a thing - except what I



read in your own report - about the work of hospital aid associations. I can't give you any constructive suggestions; and if I have any ideas on the subject, they are undoubtedly ideas you yourselves have had, and used or discarded, long ago.

So, with your kind permission - and at this point I'm in a good position - you brought this on yourselves and you have to be polite - I'd like to talk to you just as women - women in today's world. And mind you, I'm not talking at you - I'm really trying to clarify some of my own thoughts, get rid of some of my own confusion, get my values straight. What I have to say will be only one woman's opinion but perhaps it will strike a responsive chord - perhaps some of you have felt the same bewilderment and confusion - the same helplessness at what seems to be a headlong dash toward complete destruction of our whole painfully-acquired civilization.

(When I say I'm speaking to you as women, I don't mean that I am a feminist - not the militant type anyway. I'm not suggesting that if "we women" took over, everything would miraculously right itself, order would emerge from chaos, and all would be sweetness and light. I don't think we could really do all that - not without the help of the men, anyway. Each sex, I think, has particular talents for certain things and there are some things I admit, freely, that men can do better than women - read a newspaper on a crowded streetcar, for instance. The world needs all the talents of both sexes; but I am suggesting that when we contemplate our place in the world picture we think as women, and not as we think men think we should think. In other words, let's "be ourselves".

We read the newspapers - we listen to the radio. Russia has the atom bomb - the Communists are in practical control of China - the trade unions are calling strikes - tales of bitterness and strife, human misery and want and depravity, assail us from all sides. How helpless we are! What can we do - as women - as individuals - even as groups? And why bother anyway? It's all so hopeless - anything we might do would mean so little. It wouldn't change anything.

Wouldn't it?

The example of one Man, who lived nearly 2,000 years ago, has changed the social ideals, the concept of human dignity, the course of the world - in the lives of millions of people; and his precepts became the principles on which our free democratic way of life is founded.

The work and devotion and faith of three women were the foundation of three of the important humanitarian movements of our times - Florence Nightingale with her revolution in nursing and hospital care; Clara Barton, and her monument, the Red Cross; Elizabeth Fry and prison reform.

You object that these were extraordinary people - with spectacular endowments? They didn't consider themselves so. Someone has said that Democracy is based on the conviction that there are extraordinary possibilities in ordinary people. This is not just an empty phrase. We have all experienced, I think, in our own lives, moments when we were able to do things we never would have dreamed possible for us to do - in effect, to "move mountains" when the incentive was strong enough. In these people, and in the many others whose names have come down to us through history, as benefactors of humanity, the incentive - their faith in, their love for, humanity - was strong enough to keep them plugging on, working on, no matter how hopeless the situation seemed. And it was that dogged faith that gradually won others over to their cause - others who, in their turn, influenced still greater numbers. Because we all influence, in one way or another, and to a greater or lesser degree, all those with whom we come in contact, all our lives. And we are, in turn, influenced

by them. You remember Ulysses - "I am a part of all that I have met". We none of us have any way of knowing what the extent of our influence is, or has been, or will be - on our children, all those we love, our friends, our acquaintances - yes, our enemies. We shouldn't let this fearsome thought plunge us into despair - let's keep our sense of humour, which means our sense of proportion; but let's keep that thought in mind, once in a while.

Well, so what? What does all this mean, in terms of what we can do to save the world from self-destruction? Perhaps nothing we can do will make any noticeable difference not right away tomorrow, anyway. Let's not be too Pollyanna-ish. These are real problems - we have to be realistic about them. But certainly if we all just go helplessly and hopelessly on, and decide that since there doesn't seem much we can do, we might as well do nothing, it will never be right. It's only the people of the world that can remake the world. You're people, and I'm people - it isn't just special people that have to do the job - it's all the people. You can't guarantee that they all will, but if you do, you know that's one person that is doing her share. And that's part of what I mean by the title "First Things First". To me it means starting at the beginning. And that means, first of all, getting our values straight. What do we think are the important things? The atom bomb and all the other horrible things loose in the world today are important, yes. But there isn't a thing that I know of that any one of us here can do, personally, about the control of the atom bomb - except make our feelings about it known - widespread public opinion eventually gets results. We can't personally, feed and clothe all the desperate people in Europe; we can support organizations that are set up to help in this situation. We can't set up, single-handed, (I quote Tennyson again) "The parliament of man, the federation of the world"; we can through our active interest and that of our fellow citizens, see that the men and women we elect to our own governments - municipal, provincial, and federal - are the best we can get, (we can even make a sacrifice and run for office ourselves, if we have the qualifications and feel we can best make our contribution that way) - and so we can help make this nation a real example to others of freedom and effective democracy.

What I'm trying to get at, in my fumbling way, is that we have to get back to fundamentals, if we're not going to succumb to the pessimism, the hopelessness, the despair that seem so prevalent in this bewildered world. Our civilization, our social structure, has become so complex, so complicated, that the magnitude of the problems confronting us staggers the mind. And because we can't solve the whole problem, it seems hopeless even to struggle with one of its parts - because the problem is so complex, we feel the solution must be far too complex also for us to even comprehend - apart from any question of taking action. I am reminded of a story I heard at a meeting the other night on community planning - and I'm sure Mr. Davis won't mind if I repeat it. He was illustrating how not to approach the solution of a planning problem, and he told the story of the problem of how to catch a cockroach - none of you will know what a cockroach is, but it is a little animal that can cause a great deal of anguish if he is allowed to grow up and raise a family. Anyway, to catch a cockroach, the story goes, you first get a length of rope, just three feet long. Then you cut one foot off the end of it, leaving another piece two feet long. You discard the one-foot piece, and put a liberal amount of glue on the end of the other piece, and stick it on the ceiling. But before you do that, you tie a length of string to the end from which you have cut off the one-foot length. Then you stick the other end securely on the ceiling, and cut off the string that dangles below the rope, just at the floor level. Then you take a match box, and put a few peanuts in it and a small piece of mirror. Then you stick the matchbox securely on the ceiling, with one end of it open, close to the rope. Then you retire to another room and wait. The cockroach will finally come out of his hiding place, and seeing the string, and being a very curious fellow, will climb up the string,



up the rope, to the ceiling. He will see the box, and crawl into it to investigate. He sees the peanuts, but he doesn't like peanuts, so he doesn't pay any attention to them. But he is inordinately vain, and seeing the mirror, will stop to admire himself. That gives you your chance. You come back into the room, quickly cut about four feet off the string, at the end of the rope, get a large dish full of ice cream, set it right under the shortened end of string, and then retire again. Presently the cockroach gets tired of looking at himself in the mirror, and comes out of the box. He spies the dish of ice cream on the floor, and he loves ice cream, so without stopping to look he goes racing down the rope, comes to where the string has been cut off, is going so fast he can't stop himself and falls headlong into the ice cream and dies of pneumonia.

You'll forgive me for that I hope. But seriously, it's all too true, too often, of the way in which we approach problems, and make things difficult for ourselves, because we don't put first things first. The only way we can, individually and collectively, help to solve the problems of the world, keep and improve our democratic way of life, and maintain our right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness", is to start where we are, with what we have, and go on from there, one intelligent step at a time, knowing that it is our small contribution added to that of all the other men and women of goodwill in the world, that will eventually "remould it nearer to our heart's desire" - a good world for us to live in, a good world for our children, and for our neighbours.

First things first - what I am trying to suggest is:

1. Democracy, freedom, peace, begin at home - in our family life, in our community in our province, in our nation. It is there that we have to achieve them. And it is there we have to battle against the evils which would destroy them.
2. The most sinister enemies we have to fight are human inertia - ignorance - prejudice, and self-seeking. The only person in whom we can be sure of eradicating them is ourselves.
3. Whatever we achieve, in and of ourselves, individually and collectively, is a contribution to the welfare of humanity - which is the beginning and the end of the philosophy on which our way of life is founded.

I can't help quoting again, this time from Confucius, something which I think sums up so much better than I can, what I have been trying to say. Confucius connected the question of world peace with the cultivation of our personal lives. He said:

"Those who would have a clear moral harmony in the world will first order their national life; those who desire to order their national life will first regulate their home life; those who desire to regulate their home life will first cultivate their personal lives; those who desire to cultivate their personal lives will first set their hearts right; those who desire to set their hearts right, will first make their wills sincere; those who desire to make their wills sincere will first arrive at understanding; understanding comes from the exploration of knowledge of things. When the knowledge of things is gained, then understanding is reached; when understanding is reached, then the will is sincere; when the will is sincere, then the heart is set right; when the heart is set right, then the personal life is cultivated; when the personal life is cultivated, then the home life is regulated; when the home life is regulated, then the national life is orderly; and when the national life is orderly, then the world is at peace. There is a cause and a sequence in things, and a beginning and end in human affairs. To know the order of precedence is to have the beginning of wisdom."

Mrs. G. Coulter was thanked for her most interesting and informative speech by Mrs. F. B. Burgess.

Mrs. J.F. Robertson, President of the Saskatchewan Women's Hospital Aids Assn., was then called upon to speak.

Mrs. George & Ladies:

"I can hardly tell you the pleasure it gives me to meet with the Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Association. Meeting together and exchanging ideas renews our interest and enthusiasm in our work. "Together" is one of the most inspirational words in the English language.

Gathering together is a beginning.

Keeping together is Progress.

Working together is Success.

I bring the greetings of the Sask. Women's Hospital Aids Association and their wish for an interesting and helpful convention. We had hoped Mrs. George would be in Regina for our convention. Since she was unable to attend, her husband came in to our meeting to bring the greetings of your Association.

Our Hospital Aids have requested that a report on your convention be sent to them when I return. They are very interested in what their sister auxiliaries are doing.

I feel the time has come to consider a National Council of Hospital Aids. British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, the Maritime Provinces, Manitoba and Saskatchewan have all organized Provincial Associations. We all realize the stimulus that comes from hearing of the achievements of others in our own provincial groups. Similar discussion with others who have faced and overcome the same difficulties elsewhere would be of very real value to all of us.

I hope the ladies here at this convention will consider and discuss the possibility of a national council of Hospital Aids.

I think we should all be proud to belong to the army of voluntary workers. The scope of service which can be rendered by our Hospital Aid groups is unlimited.

It was a revelation to me this year to see the individual reports of hospital aids, small groups of 10 and 15 women giving unstintingly of their time and efforts. It was the late Lord Tweedsmuir who said, "I believe in hands that work, brains that think and hearts that love." This quotation describes our voluntary workers.

The voluntary worker occupies a strategic position in the community. She can place the case of the hospital before the public as no member of the professional group can. The public will trust and accept her interpretation of hospital service. Because of this trusted position, she must have a grasp of what the hospital is doing and know and understand the facts before she makes statements. There must be the professional and lay groups in the hospital. Here they meet on common ground where each has his or her special contribution to make.

We must not in any way interfere with the duties of our professional staff. As Mrs. Rynas has often said, "It is not our duty to run hospitals, but to assist the hospital board and the hospital staff in doing so." It is only by a real understanding of the problems of the hospital board and the hospital staff that we can be of service.



I would like at this time to give you a brief report on the work and growth of our Sask. Women's Hospital Aids Association. We organized in 1941 under the guidance of Dr. Harvey Agnew, Secretary of the Canadian Hospital Council. Twelve hospital aids joined the Association in 1941. This year we have a membership of 64 affiliated groups. Our efforts since organization have been directed toward interesting all Aids in affiliation.

Our records show one hundred and four Hospital Aids in the Province but a number of these are associated with Red Cross Hospitals and small nursing homes.

The 64 affiliated Aids are thoroughly representative of the hospital life of Sask. In our Province there are only 9 hospitals with a capacity of over 100 beds, the largest of these being Regina General, which, when the new wing recently opened is finally completed, will have around 1,000 beds. The Women's Auxiliaries of all nine are affiliated with our Provincial association.

Of the 64 Aids which constitute the Association, 49 submitted reports of their activities during the past year. Amongst them, these 49 groups raised a combined sum of over \$40,000.00 which was spent in a variety of ways for the benefit of our hospitals.

In so many places new hospitals wings have been opened, new hospitals and nurses' residences built, that hospital aids have been working hard to supply furnishings for these buildings. In some cases hospital aids have made their donations in cash directly to the hospital board, but I am sure you will agree with me when I say women like to spend money, and they like to purchase the items they have worked to pay for. In most hospitals the linens are supplied, and kept in repair, dishes, silverware and cooking utensils are purchased by the hospital aid. Treats for the patients and the staff, magazine subscriptions and books are mentioned in most auxiliary reports. In the larger hospitals, which have nurses training schools, scholarships, proficiency prizes and medals are given. Other items purchased by hospital aids throughout the Province include, pianos, radios, electric sewing machines, Infra-red lamps, incubators, bus trucks, floor waxers, vacuum cleaners, obstetrical tables, surgical instruments, wheel chairs and refrigerators. There are many other items but I could not begin to mention them all.

I don't think I need to elaborate further as I fancy that our activities in Sask. are very similar to your own. But I would be very glad to try to answer any questions regarding our Saskatchewan Association.

May I, in conclusion, express my sincere thanks for the opportunity you have given me to speak to your meeting and also for your gracious hospitality. It has been a very real pleasure to meet with the members of the Manitoba Hospital Association."

Miss Pettigrew, R.N., also addressed the meeting on "Calling Student Nurses".

Madam President and Members:

"The invitation of your Secretary to address this meeting was accepted with eagerness and with pleasure. For two reasons, your invitation is particularly timely. Firstly, it gives me an opportunity to tell you what is being done by the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses to try to interest high school girls in nursing, and secondly it gives me an opportunity to solicit your interest and participation in "recruiting" student nurses. Though I personally dislike the militant implications of the word "recruit", it is now commonly used to qualify our publicity program to interest girls in nursing. But why is a publicity program necessary?

Ten years ago there was no concern about a shortage of nurses. Did the impact of war produce the shortage? To some degree, yes - nurses were needed for the Army, Navy and Air Force Services, the rate of marriage increased for nurses as for other women. We lived through the years of war, and managed as best we could by using emergency measures. But, why in peacetime are we facing such distressing nursing shortages in Manitoba - in Canada - in all countries of the world? The answer is simply this - the public demand for nursing services are greater - established hospitals have built new wings, new hospital units of varying sizes are mushrooming into existence. Worthy as such expansion of public service is - the rate of building construction now going on in Manitoba and in Canada far exceeds the country's ability to produce nurses for those hospitals. More nurses are nursing in Canada today - more student nurses are in training than ever before but even the shrewdest authorities cannot foresee a supply of nurses adequate to the demand for years to come, unless the public, which wants those services, becomes informed as to the limitations of them.

Some of us believe we know some ways which would, at least in part, alleviate some of the present shortage of nursing services - but we have neither the power, authority nor financial resources to do so and it is difficult to convince the honorable gentlemen who hold the public purse-strings that nurses are worthy of public expenditures.

The story, important as it is, is too long for your program today. But I did come to make an appeal to your members, particularly the women from rural areas. Schools of Nursing in Manitoba enrol approximately 400 student nurses each year. They could enrol approximately 50 more per year. The course for Licensed Practical Nurses can always accept more candidates. If more practical nurses could be trained it would greatly reduce current estimates of the shortage of registered nurses.

Could your Hospital Aid Society in each area try to interest local high school girls in nursing? Could a member of your Hospital Aid Society, preferably a nurse, become responsible for speaking to high school girls, for acting as a counsellor for girls interested in nursing? Our office could send pamphlets and information that would be helpful to the counsellor and to the high school girl. Such pamphlets are available for the information of "interested" girls but are too costly for random distribution. If your Society could participate in this way, please communicate with me - the address is

Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses,  
214 Balmoral Street,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

For information regarding the course for Licensed Practical Nurses your communication should be addressed to:

Miss Winnifred M. Barratt,  
Registrar for Licensed Practical Nurses,  
320 Sherbrooke Street,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Your interest and your help will be greatly appreciated."

Mrs. Robertson and Miss Pettigrew were thanked by Mrs. W.O. Henry.

Judge George, D. W. W. Grant, Dr. Trainor and Mr. Gagnon were guests of honor at the Luncheon and spoke briefly.

Discussion took place on the advisability of visiting Hospitals. Service delegates expressed their appreciation of opportunities given to visit institutions and felt it was the high point of the convention. A great pleasure and had definite benefits.



It was suggested that when Aids send in their next reports they express their wishes as to the above.

Afternoon Session.

The afternoon session started at 2.30 with Mrs. George in the chair. Miss MacLeod read a letter from Russell.

Mrs. W. P. Fillmore submitted the following resolutions:

Madam President and Ladies:

I have much pleasure in presenting the Report of the Resolutions Committee.

RESOLUTION 1. WE the members of the Brandon Women's Hospital Aid Society wish to submit the following resolution to be brought before the Annual Meeting of the Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Association for its consideration:-

"WE recommend that a contest in the form of an essay entitled "WHY I WISH TO BECOME A NURSE" be established by your Association, and that this contest be open to girls of Grades 11 and 12 in the Province. We further recommend that cash prizes be offered for the three best essays and that a committee be appointed to make final arrangements for same."

Moved by Mrs. W.P.Fillmore, seconded by Mrs. Johns & carried.

RESOLUTION II THAT the By-laws be amended to read as follows:

CLAUSE 4.

THAT the Officers shall be: A President; three Vice-Presidents; A Corresponding Secretary; A Recording Secretary; A Treasurer and seven District Representatives. These Officers and District Representatives shall form the Executive Committee of which five members are required to form a quorum.

CLAUSE 4A.

THE retiring members of the Executive Committee shall be an Advisory Committee. No member shall act on the Advisory Committee for more than three consecutive years. This Committee shall meet at the call of the President.

CLAUSE 5.

The Officers and District Representatives shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nominations shall be considered by a committee chosen by the Executive Meeting held prior to the Annual Meeting; the Nominating Committee Report shall be presented to the General Meeting.

IF for any reason vacancies occur during the year the Officers and District Representatives shall have the right to fill such vacancies for the balance of the year. Each Officer and District Representative shall be elected each year, and may not hold the same office for more than three years.

Moved by Mrs. W.P. Fillmore, seconded by Mrs. Glow, and carried.

THESE CHANGES MAKE PROVISION FOR AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

RESOLUTION III. That a Public Relations Committee be formed by the Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Association to create interest in all phases of Hospital Service and to supply constructive information to newly organizing Aids or those Aids that are re-organizing, and to create

Resolutions Cont'd.

Hospital-mindedness wherever possible.

Moved by Mrs. W.P. Fillmore, seconded by Miss Paynter & Carried.

The Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Association expresses its sincere appreciation to Mrs. George for her untiring efforts on its behalf during the period of organization. Her quiet and efficient help has been of great value in establishing this organization on a sound footing.

To Miss MacLeod for her many hours of work so cheerfully given and to her unselfish devotion to the work of the Manitoba Women's Hospitals Aids Assn.

To Mrs. A.M. Oswald for the excellent arrangements she has made for our Annual Meeting also arranging transportation for our meeting at Morden.

To Mrs. C. Currie for her ever ready help as Corresponding Secretary.

To Miss Gladys Ruddell for her kindness in helping with the work of this organization.

To Mr. Chas. Pierson for so kindly auditing our books.

To the Manitoba Hospital Association for their kind assistance in printing our Annual Reports. We paid for our reports.

To the Press for their kindness in giving so much time and valuable space in their papers reporting our activities and for covering today's proceedings.

THAT the Officers and members assembled in Convention desire to express appreciation of the courteous and efficient service rendered by the Management and Staff of the Royal Alexandra Hotel.

OUR thanks are also due to all those that have contributed in anyway to the success of this Meeting.

I MOVE the adoption of this report. Seconded by Mrs. W.O. Henry, and Carried.

The following report of the Nominating Committee was given by the Chairman, Mrs. A. M. Oswald.

Madam President, Members, and Delegates:

Your nominating Committee, consisting of the following: Mrs. Claude Currie, Mrs. W.P. Fillmore, and Mrs. A.M. Oswald has given considerable time and effort to the selection of a suitable and qualified slate of Officers for the ensuing year.

Your nominating Committee takes pleasure in nominating the following:

Past President	Mrs. J.M. George	Morden.
President:	Mrs. A.E. Hoskin	Winnipeg.
1st Vice-President:	Mrs. F.S. Burgess	Neepawa.
2nd " "	Miss E. Paynter	Winnipeg
3rd " "	Mrs. R.H.B. North	Carman.
Corresponding Secretary:	Mrs. W.P. Fillmore	Winnipeg.
Secretary Treasurer	Miss C. Macleod	Winnipeg.



Report of Nominating Committee Cont'd.

District Representatives:

Mrs. G. A. Davis	Boissevain
Mrs. R. Danzinger	Winnipeg
Mrs. T. Norquay	Selkirk
Mrs. Don Johansen	Swan River
Mrs. F.B.C. Richardson	Portage la Prairie
Mrs. R.R. Swan	Winnipeg
Mrs. W.F. Tisdale	Winnipeg.

Advisory Committee:

Mrs. J.M. George	Morden
Mrs. C. Currie	Winnipeg
Mrs. E.T. Blow	Selkirk
Mrs. W.O. Henry	Deloraine
Mrs. A.P. Johns	Brandon
Mrs. A.M. Oswald	Winnipeg.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

It was moved by Mrs. Oswald, Seconded by Mrs. Ure of Morden, that nominations be accepted as read - Carried.

Mrs. George introduced Mrs. A.E. Hoskin as President.

Mrs. Hoskin stated that she felt very diffident in accepting the office as President and thanked Mrs. George for her wonderful work during the past 3 years. She stated that it would be very difficult to live up to the standard set by Mrs. George.

A short discussion period was held on Shortage of Nurses, Suggestions for Next year's convention, Essay Contest, - Mrs. Konantz suggested that in order to save some time hitherto devoted to reading reports, a chart be drawn up and sent to delegates on which, all activities would be listed, problems noted etc., upon receipt of such reports before the convention they could be carefully analyzed and condensed - any new ideas shared and problems discussed. Mrs. Johns brought up the matter of dealing with local merchants as against ordering through the Hospital and avoiding the 8% tax. This matter was thoroughly discussed. Mrs. George felt that the 10% the local merchants gave was worth while with the added advantage of being able to see what you are getting. Most local merchants are also contributors and their interest should not be alienated.

Mrs. Hoskin announced that the Bus would be waiting to take the delegates to the new Shrine Hospital. The meeting then adjourned.

After the inspection of the Hospital which was enjoyed by every one, a very hearty vote of thanks was extended to Miss K. Maclean, Supt. of the Shrine Hospital.







MANITOBA WOMEN'S HOSPITAL AIDS ASSOCIATION

To:  
The Secretary,  
Women's Hospital Aid.

At a belated Executive-Advisory Meeting held June 15th, much of interest was accomplished.

The Essay Contest, its special results as to Prize Winners, Honorable Mention Winners, Luncheon in their honor and for the Judges of Essays, barely escaped the terrible flood. Our indebtedness to Hon. Ivan Schultz and Dr. and Mrs. P. H. T. Thorlakson for making possible awarding of prizes, luncheon, and expenses of printing and mailing, is immeasurable. Mrs. W. P. Fillmore, Convener of Essay Contest, will give detailed statement of same at the Annual Meeting. The Prize Winning Essays have had wide publicity.

Three members of the M. W. H. A. A. have acted on the Executive of the Nurses' Recruitment Campaign.

A Committee on Public Relations has been set up.

Your Association has affiliated with Provincial Council of Women, and five members to act on same will be chosen at large.

The Annual Meeting on October 20th, 1950, at the Fort Garry Hotel, and the invitation from the Children's Hospital for a tour of the Hospital and Afternoon Tea, are something of special note.

Some 1949 Reports are to be sent new rural Hospitals, for encouragement.

Further details as to Annual Meeting will reach you at a later date.

CHRISTINA MACLEOD,

Secretary-Treasurer.

Suite E, Newhaven Apartments,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

June 26th,  
1950.